Communities Uniting Against Hate
Niot.org/COPS

Working together for safe, inclusive communities.

Partners in stopping hate

NOT IN OUR TOWN
STOP HATE. TOGETHER

COPS
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS POLICING SERVICES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Work in Progress — From Tragedy to Healing: Oak Creek, Wisconsin

The COPS Office and Not In Our Town have joined forces to increase awareness of hate crimes, improve hate crime reporting, and promote safe, inclusive communities nationwide. Over the next two years, the Not In Our Town: Working Together for Safe, Inclusive Communities initiative will provide vital new tools to help law enforcement professionals and community partners work together to prevent hate crimes and address underlying tensions that can lead to violence. Project resources will include an online hub at NIOT.org/COPS, a series of new films and Action Guides highlighting successful practices, and a network of law enforcement leaders committed to spreading community policing strategies that promote safety and inclusion for all. This is the first in a series of articles about the project.

In January, the Not In Our Town (NIOT) filmmaking crew traveled to Oak Creek, Wisconsin, to document the powerful community actions taking place in the aftermath of the devastating shootings at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin last August. It turned out to be one of the most challenging and inspiring shoots the team has ever experienced. Meeting the brave police officers who responded to the call, talking with congregants who survived the attack, and seeing first-hand the connections that have been made since the attack, the team witnessed the transformation of a community now standing together. NIOT is honored to have the opportunity to tell this story in a new film that will be distributed to law enforcement and community partners in September 2013. This article offers an inside look at this work-in-progress.

On August 5, 2012, a white supremacist opened fire in the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek, a suburb of Milwaukee. The attack resulted in the death of six Sikh worshippers and the injury of three others, including Oak Creek Police Lt. Brian Murphy. Two nights after the shooting, the NIOT crew joined five thousand people gathered in the
NOT in Our Town + COPS Office

Tools & Resources
Bring together your community with these best practices from the field.

Tools & Resources
These tools, including downloadable guides and innovative approaches, can help combat and prevent hate and intolerance.

Case Studies
Take a deeper look at communities and law enforcement departments that are raising the bar in hate crime prevention.

Profiles
Meet the people who are working to make our towns and schools safe and inclusive.

Film / Media
Screen these short videos at roll call or with your community to spark dialogue.
NOT in Our Town + COPS Office

Film / Media

After Cross Burning, A Town Marches Together
After a cross burning strikes fear into a young African-American family, the community of Anderson County, CA comes together to lend their support. Police...

Recognizing a Hate Crime
When two elderly Sikh men are gunned down during their evening walk, community members, civic leaders and local law enforcement stand together against hate and...

Working with an Immigrant Community
After the hate crime killing of Ecuadorian immigrant Marcelo Lucero, Suffolk County, NY police assign two Spanish-speaking officers to the precinct. Not In Our...

Prosecuting Hate
Suffolk County, NY District Attorney Thomas Spota and Assistant DA Megan O’Donnell talk about prosecuting the hate crime case against seven high school...

Make Our Mosque Safe From Hate
After a mosque and community center for Somali immigrants was vandalized, Maine’s Lewiston-Auburn community rallies in support of their Muslim neighbors.

About Not In Our Town
Not In Our Town counters hate by producing media that connects and inspires people to create inclusive communities. This video is a 4-minute...
Not In Our Town

• Community Response to Hate Crimes
• Building Safety, Acceptance and Inclusion
• in Local Communities
• Key role for civic leaders and law enforcement
The Billings Story
“If a Police Chief doesn't take a visible and active role, then there is an assumption that everything is alright.

And these hate groups have learned though experience that if a community doesn't respond, then the community accepts. *Silence is acceptance* to them.”

– Wayne Inman, Billings Police Chief
Not In Our Town Gathering
What would you do if one of your neighbors was killed in a hate crime? A community works to repair their world after attacks on local immigrants. MORE ABOUT THIS FILM: WWW.NIOT.ORG >
Light In The Darkness: Legal Actions

Suffolk County District Attorney
Thomas J. Spota

Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney
Megan O'Donnell

Extended interviews on Niot.org/lightinthedarkness/legalactions
A hate crime is reported nearly every hour.

Source: Southern Poverty Law Center
Hate Crimes Reporting Gap

- 2009 Hate Crimes Reported to FBI (UCR) 8336
- Average victimizations from 2003-2009
  Bureau of Justice Statistics 195,000
Under Reporting of Hate Crime

• Two out of three crimes not reported to police
• 24% of violent hate crime victims do not report to police because they believe police “could or would help them.”

• NIOT SEEKING BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLES OF Law Enforcement and HATE CRIME REPORTING.

Key Responses to Hate Crime

- Acknowledgement and Support for Victim
- Police Outreach to Community
- Community Meetings with Law Enforcement
- Awareness Campaign: Expose the intolerance/present stories of people who are harmed
- Visible Signs of Support/Rejection of Hate
- Support for Prosecution
- Persistence
Role of Prosecutors

- Prosecuting Hate Crimes
- Supporting Victims
- Engaging the Community
FILM SCREENING

VICTOR HWANG:
San Francisco Hate Crimes Prosecutor
An excerpt from upcoming PBS film
CASE AGAINST HATE
HOST A SCREENING

Films and Viewer Guides Available:
NIOT.org/COPS

- VICTOR HWANG FILM
- LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS
- OAK CREEK: IN THE AFTERMATH OF HATE
- FIVE LESSONS FROM A HATE CRIME COP
Community partnerships

- Diverse community groups
- LGBT Groups
- Faith leaders
- Law Enforcement
- Local Media
- Civic/ Elected Leaders
- Shop Owners/Local Business
NIOT/COPS RESOURCES

- VICTOR HWANG FILM
- OAK CREEK FILM
- LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS
Recognizing a Hate Crime

When two elderly Sikh men are gunned down during their evening walk, community members, civic leaders and local law enforcement stand together against hate and intolerance. Elk Grove, CA Police Chief Robert Lehner talks about the tragedy and the importance of recognizing a hate crime in the absence of clear evidence.
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